

**Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)  
Aging & Adult Services Agency (AASA) Virtual Meeting  
Friday, November 19, 2021**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Commission Chair Schlueter.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

The commission roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mark Bomberg, William Bupp, Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Nancy Duncan, Walid Gammouh, Marshall Greenhut, Guillermo Lopez, Joy Murphy, Michael Pohnl, Bob Schlueter, Shirley Tuggle, and Kristie Zamora

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED**

Dennis Smith, Sue Franklin, and Tene Milton-Ramsey

**STAFF PRESENT**

Beth Nagel, Kate Massey, Scott Wamsley, Cindy Masterson, Tari Muniz, Annette Gamez, and Kelly Cooper

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commission Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. The agenda was approved by voice vote.

**Commented [DW1]:** Brenda - I am ok if you leave this as is but the agenda was approved with the change and time allotment for Directo Hertel – and happened before her presentation.

**APPROVAL OF CSA MEETING MINUTES**

Commission Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the October 15, 2021, CSA meeting minutes without amendments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg and Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

**COMMISSION CHAIR OPENING REMARKS**

Commission Chair Schlueter welcomed all to the meeting offering thanks for the hard work and commitment to older adults in Michigan.

He also offered the following comments:

- He attended the November 18 State Advisory Council (SAC) Virtual Meeting. He noted that he has worked with them for many years and is very impressed by Commissioner Kristie Zamora, SAC Chair. He also noted the passion and commitment that SAC Members have for the work they do and their involvement in many things related to aging. He let members know that there will be a transition to Commissioner Pohnl as the SAC Chair in the coming months. He thanked Commissioner Zamora for her hard work and leadership during the four years she has served as SAC Chair.
- He stated that we will be working toward having an option for the public, stakeholders, and staff to be able to listen to commission meetings virtually, as travel and in-person attendance is sometimes difficult, especially during winter and due to the pandemic.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO HASA PROGRAMS, SERVICES, POLICIES, OR ISSUES IMPACTING OLDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS**

None.

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (SAC) UPDATE**

Commissioner Kristie Zamora, SAC Chairperson gave the following updates:

- She thanked Chair Schlueter, Commissioners Duncan and Pohnl, and Scott Wamsley for their attendance and presentations at the SAC Meeting on November 18.
- Next SAC Meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 2022, with the hope of being able to meet in-person, but the pandemic situation is being closely monitored.
- Much of the SAC Meeting was dedicated to status updates on the annual SAC Report and she reminded members that this year's report topic is "Aging in Place".
- The hard work of the four workgroups is now being compiled into one cohesive report as a rough draft. She noted that this report is a little behind their intended schedule as all work has been done virtually. The writing team has started making edits and analyzing where there may be further research needed. They will send suggestions back to the work groups. The goal is to get the draft report to the CSA for approval at the joint CSA/SAC meeting in April 2022.
- During the SAC meeting, there is a standing agenda item called "For the Good of the Group", where members individually share what is happening in their regions and the work they do.
- She thanked Lauren Swanson-Aprill and Kelly Cooper for the support they give to the SAC.

**CSA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Commissioner Duncan, Advocacy Committee Chair, provided an update on the work of the committee:

- Acknowledged and thanked Advocacy Committee members - Commissioners Bomberg, Crawford-Cambell, Lopez, and Murphy (a recent addition to the committee, starting in November).

- Committee is working on bringing recommendations to the CSA for proposed issues they would like to recommend to the governor for inclusion in the FY2023 executive budget. They hope to have these recommendations to present to the CSA at the December 2021 meeting. The focus has been largely on the issues related to the Direct Care Workforce (DCW). She encouraged members to think about what they would like to see for commission advocacy for FY2023 and bring those suggestions to the next commission meeting for discussion.
- They have been researching a federal bill introduced by Congresswoman Dingell called the Better Care Better Jobs Act. If enacted, the bill would provide additional federal resources to strengthen HCBS for seniors, specifically in Medicaid programs. It would also provide the following: enhanced Medicaid funding for services, planning grants to states to strengthen access to HCBS and the direct care workforce, and funding for innovative models for DCW. They have invited Congresswoman Dingell to the next committee meeting where they hope to learn more and will share more information with the commission at upcoming meetings.
- The committee is awaiting follow up from Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHSS) regarding prior DCW discussions and recommendations from the CSA. The committee hopes to hear feedback on whether the department agrees with the recommendations and if there can be some collaboration on a plan of action to pursue these goals. MDHSS has committed to responding by early December.
- She attended the SAC Meeting on November 18 and shared the goals and work of the CSA Advocacy Committee as well as the work of the full CSA related to advocacy of senior issues. She encouraged reinforcement of two-way communication between the CSA and SAC to further strengthen and enhance joint efforts related to advocacy issues to keep each other informed on recommended advocacy needs. She let the SAC know the committee also studies the SAC reports as a way of researching any new issues to be elevated to CSA advocacy. The committee has also invited a SAC member (and an alternate) to be a liaison for on the committee.

#### **HEALTH AND AGING SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HASA) SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT**

HASA Senior Deputy Director, Kate Massey shared the following with the group:

- She gave a brief overview of the recent reorganization of the Medical Services Administration and Aging and Adult Services Agency to form the Health and Aging Services Administration (HASA).
- She noted one of the reasons for this reorganization was that Michigan has one of the most rapidly aging populations in the country, which creates the need to focus more policies toward seniors to be sure we are focusing on innovations and so that services are available and high-quality.
- This reorganization allows the administration to pool subject matter experts and funding resources related to aging, disability, community living supports, and home and community-based services into one organization. The goal is also to be sure we are complimenting resources and not duplicating them.

- This will provide the opportunity for more seamless policy-making decisions and allow for more collaboration on best practices and innovative ideas for service delivery.
- This reorganization was also designed to strengthen the commission's relationship with the director's office of MDHHS by having them report directly to the MDHHS Policy and Planning Division. Beth Nagel from MDHHS's Policy and Planning Division was present at the meeting and she reports to Chief Deputy David Knezek, who is the liaison between the CSA Advocacy Committee and Director Hertel's office. This reporting structure was established due in part to Director Hertel's commitment and strong interest in the issues the commission are reviewing and their work on advocacy recommendations to the department and the governor's office.
- She noted one example of an advantage of the recent reorganization is that HASA is contracting with a policy think tank from the University of Michigan's Center for Health Care Research and Transformation (CHRT). They have been asked to help with long-term care strategy to be sure we have the right delivery system in place to provide high-quality services and access. She will provide more information as this process continues.
- She shared that there was a provision in the last stimulus bill that provided enhanced funding specifically for states to invest in home and community-based infrastructure (known as the HCBS ARPA fund). The reorganization will allow for more input from all stakeholders and subject matter experts. This is an ongoing project and she will also provide more information as this continues.

Further discussion ensued with a question-and-answer session.

#### **FINANCIAL UPDATES**

Scott Wamsley, Director of Aging, Community Living, and Supports Bureau, provided the following information:

- There is a continuing resolution for federal funds for aging that expires early December, which we are monitoring closely.
- We have issued Statement of Grant Awards (SGAs) for aging network programs through December 31<sup>st</sup>. We will have to monitor the continuing resolution to see how to proceed with SGAs for January 2022 and beyond.
- We are looking at how we can meet match requirements on Federal COVID Response Funds from state funding. More information will be provided as it is received.
- Amy Colletti and the Financial Quality and Grant Support team are preparing for financial assessments of the Area Agencies on Aging. They have been setting up the assessments and will likely continue to conduct these virtually.

Further discussion ensued with a question-and-answer session.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **a. Request for Approval to Extend the FY2021 Care Transition Hospital Readmission Reduction Expansion Grant**

Annette Gamez, AASA Field Representative and Care Transition Program Manager, provided an overview stating the request is for approval to extend the Care Transition Hospital Readmission Reduction Expansion Grant agreement with Michigan Public Health Institute through February 28, 2022.

The purpose of the Care Transition Hospital Readmission Reduction Grant is to develop pre/post hospital discharge support and services best practices to seniors 60+. The aim is to develop best practices across the state of Michigan, reducing hospital readmissions for the same diagnosis within a 30-day time frame. This no-cost extension will allow MPHI to complete the data analysis and stakeholder feedback.

A motion was made by Commissioner Murphy to approve the request. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 12-0-0.

### **b. Request for Approval to Revise FY2021 Michigan COVID-19: No Wrong Door (NWD) System Grants Awards Extended into FY2022 – AAAs and Disability Networks**

Tari Muñiz, MIPPA Grant Manager, provided an overview stating the request is to revise award amounts for the Michigan COVID-19: No Wrong Door System Grant awarded to the ACLS Bureau for the agreement period of April 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021. The grant period for awards to the grantees listed will be October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022. This revision request is based on final FY2021 expenditures versus estimated expenditures provided in September 2021. Region IV Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has been added to this request for revisions. Due to unspent funds, the agency recently requested that the ACLS Bureau extend their FY2021 agreement into FY2022 to allow for the completion of grant activities. The grant agreement period for Region IV AAA will be December 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022.

The purpose of the Michigan COVID-19: No Wrong Door System Grant is to enhance the Aging and Disability Resource Collaborations to meet the needs of older adults and people with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, including mitigating social isolation through information and referral; managing virtual ADRC access functions; developing or enhancing innovative services; and deploying targeted care transition services, rapid assessment, and evaluation.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the request. Commissioner Gammouh seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 12-0-0.

**c. Request for Approval of State Advisory Council (SAC) Reappointments**

Commissioner Zamora, SAC Chair, provided an overview of the applicants for reappointment to the State Advisory Council. The review team, comprised of Commissioners Schlueter, Crawford-Cambell, and Zamora, recommends reappointments for the following SAC members:

Name	City / AAA Region	Term
Charles C. Corwin	Prudenville / 9	1/1/2022 - 12/31/2025
Ruby A. Kickert	Holland / 14	1/1/2022 - 12/31/2025
Marjorie A. Hobe	Horton / 2	1/1/2022 - 12/31/2025
Lori S. Wells	Traverse City / 10	1/1/2022 - 12/31/2025

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp approve the request. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by unanimously by voice vote.

**d. Request for Approval of Amendments to 2022 CSA Meeting Dates and Locations Schedule**

Kelly Cooper, CSA Support, provided a proposed amended 2022 CSA Meeting Dates and Locations schedule, based on feedback from the CSA at previous commission meetings.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve the request. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**a. Michigan Model – Long-Term Care Supports and Services – Older Americans Act**

Lynn Kellogg, CEO of Region IV Area Agency on Aging, provided a presentation regarding long-term care supports and services. All presentation materials were provided to the CSA and are also attached to these minutes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday November 19, 2021, at Hilton Garden Inn, 633 N. Canal Rd., Lansing, MI 48917.

**Please note, these meeting are open to the public and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing technical assistance should contact Kelly Cooper at [cooperk6@michigan.gov](mailto:cooperk6@michigan.gov) at leave five business days prior to the meeting date.**

**ADJOURN**

Commission Chair Schlueter adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.